

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gregory LaPointe on November 24, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 6, "3 to 6" has been deleted and "3.4 to 4.0" has been inserted in its place.

Claim 2 has been cancelled.

In claim 4, line 1, "including the step of adding" has been deleted and "wherein the fungal structures comprise" has been added in its place.

In claim 5, line 1, "claim 3" has been deleted and "claim 1" has been added in its place.

In claim 5, line 1, "including adding" has been deleted and "wherein the fungal structures comprise" has been added in its place.

In claim 8, line 1, "including" has been deleted and "wherein providing an acidic environment comprises" has been added in its place.

In claim 10, line 1, "including adding" has been deleted and "wherein the fungal structures comprise" has been added in its place.

In claim 10, line 2, "as" has been deleted and ", and wherein the" has been added in its place.

In claim 10, line 3, "which" has been deleted.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHERIDAN R. MACAULEY whose telephone number is (571)270-3056. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs, 7:30AM-5:00PM EST, alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Wityshyn can be reached on (571) 272-0926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SRM

/Ruth A. Davis/
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